



EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

May 17, 2010

Secretary Ken Salazar
U.S. Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, NW
Washington, DC 20240

Dear Secretary Salazar:

Thank you for continued leadership and efforts as we all fight to protect the Gulf Coast from the catastrophic effects of the Deepwater Horizon well oil spill. I know we share the President's commitment to respond aggressively to the environmental crisis in the Gulf, and to protect the health and livelihood of the people in the region.

I appreciate your willingness to work with the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) during review of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) procedures for the Minerals Management Service (MMS), as they manage the nation's natural gas, oil and other mineral resources on the outer continental shelf (OCS). CEQ will move forward with an examination of the MMS NEPA policies, practices and procedures for OCS oil and gas exploration and development. The 30-day review will start today, in conjunction with this letter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nancy H. Sutley".

Nancy H. Sutley
Chair